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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/673,202	09/30/2003	George Ying-Liang Huang	04131.0164	9610

7590 11/05/2004

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow,
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Washington, DC 20005-3315

EXAMINER

ZARROLI, MICHAEL C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/673,202

Applicant(s)

HUANG, GEORGE YING-LIANG

Examiner

Michael C. Zarroli

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/2/04.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Ayers et al.

Ayers discloses an electrical connector assembly comprising: a first electrical connector (300) including a first housing (fig. 3), a first engaging portion extending outwardly from said first housing (fig. 5 unnumbered), and a fixing unit (334, 336) disposed on said first housing and located adjacent to said first engaging

portion (fig. 3); and a second electrical connector (352) having one end adapted to be connected to an electronic device (404) and the other end connected detachably to said first electrical connector (figures 5-7), said second electrical connector including a second housing (352), a second engaging portion (402) that extends outwardly from said second housing (fig. 5) and that is connected to said first engaging portion (fig. 7), and a positioning member (406) disposed fixedly on said second housing and located adjacent to said second engaging portion (fig. 5); wherein one of said first and second engaging portions includes a plurality of parallel contact pins (316) disposed fixedly thereon (fig. 3), and the other one of said first and second engaging portions includes a plurality of pin holes (unnumbered fig. 4) formed therein for receiving respectively said contact pins therein to form an electrical connection between said first and second electrical connectors (figures 5-7), said positioning member engaging said fixing unit so as to prevent relative movement (fig. 7) between said first and second electrical connectors in an axial direction (fig. 5 at A) of said contacts; wherein said first electrical connector further includes a sleeve unit (320, 322) disposed fixedly on said first housing around said fixing unit (fig. 5), said sleeve unit being sleeved fittingly on said positioning member when said first engaging portion and said second engaging portion are interconnected (fig. 7), whereby relative movement

between said first and second electrical connectors in a transverse direction of said contact pins is prevented.

Regarding claims 2 and 3 Ayers discloses that said positioning member is constructed as a hexagonal nut (fig. 4), said sleeve unit being constructed as a circular sleeve (fig. 6).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 4-6 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Regarding claims 4 and 5 the shapes of the sleeve. In claim 6 the shapes of the positioning member and fixing unit.

Conclusion

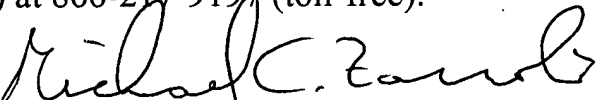
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Medina et al teaches a plate positioning member but no pins or second connector. Waters et al teaches engaging portions only one of which extends from the connector housing and no sleeves. Thompson teaches a

hexagonal sleeve. Liao et al teaches positioning members and fixing units but no pins.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Zarroli whose telephone number is 571-272-2101. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 to 3:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T.C. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Michael C. Zarroli
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

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